
THE
EMPEROUR
And the
EMPIRE
BETRAY'D:

By Whom and How.

Written by a Minister of State residing at that Court, to one of the Protestant Princes of the Empire.

Published for the satisfaction of
all good Protestants.

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TO THE
READER.

THE extraordinary
Conduct of the Im-
perial Court and
Council for some
years past, having rais'd the
Curiosity of a great Prince
of the Empire, to find out at
any rate the true Causes and
Grounds of Counsels and
Actions that had so much
surprized him, he made choise
of a Minister whom he judg-
ed best capable to execute this
Design, and having given

To the Reader.

him Instructions for the purpose, dispatched him privately under other pretences to the Emperours Court at Prague. The Minister acquitted himself well, and gave his Master an ample account of his Business by Letter, of the 13. of February 1680. The Master (a right German, and truly generous Prince) laid his Commands on me to publish those important Secrets, the value whereof will soon appear by the reading, from which I will no longer detain you.

Farewell.

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THE
EMPEROUR
AND THE

EMPIRE Betrayed.

AND

By Whom, and How.

IN A LECTURE.

My Lord,

THIS is the duty of a Ser-
vant not to conceal
anything from his
Prince and Master,
especially when he is pleased to
honour

honour him with his Confidence, as your Highness hath done in sending me to this Court: To clear my self from the Guilt and Reproach of having been wanting to this Duty, I take the liberty to give your Highness a faithful and candid account in Writing; what I have discovered most pertinent and Essential to the business, you were pleased to employ me in. I shall do it with the less scruple and reserve, having sent this Letter by an Express, in whom I have entire Confidence, and doubt not but he will, according to my order, deliver it into your Hands.

To begin with the best part of what I have to deliver, I am to inform your Highness, that His Imperial Majesty is, in my Opinion, a pious Prince, good natured, and of a sweet and gentle Disposition, and not at all inclined

ned to contend with the Princes his Neighbours, or make War on his Inferiors: That, pursuant to this natural Inclination for Repose and for Peace, this Prince hath an Antipathy against any thing that disturbs or opposes his quiet Disposition, and hath eased himself wholly of the management and direction of his Affairs of State, and of War, by committing all to the Conduct of his principal Ministers. 'Tis hard for a Prince to intrust a Minister with Affairs of this mighty Importance, without opening to him all his Mind, and imparting the greatest and deepest of his Secrets: And from hence, I believe it hath unhappily followed that this Prince, having by degrees accustomed himself to leave the greatest part of his Affairs to the Conduct of his Ministers, hath reserved to himself only the Title

and Pomp, the Splendour and Name of the Dignities and Grandeur proper to his Character. In a Word, had his Imperial Majesty never so little minded his great Affairs, he would never have yielded to sign that shameful and ignominious Peace with *France*, subscribed by the Imperial Embassadors at the Congress ad *Nimiquen*; the unhappy Effects whereof we have seen in seven Particulars of great importance.

First, His Imperial Majesty, by those few strokes of his Pen, hath in all probability, lost for ever the Esteem, the Friendship and Confidence of the Princes his Friends and Allies; who would have generously defended and preserved him from ruine, by the force of their Arms.

Secondly, That his own Troops have been shamefully forced to quit all the Countries of the Empire;

pire, while those of *France* have been actually there, and continue to this day insulting and Domineering as they please over the Princes, the Cities, the Countries and Provinces of the Empire.

Thirdly, That by the Execution of this Peace, the Estates, the Persons and the Courts of the three Ecclesiastical Electors of the Empire, and of the Elector *Palatine* of the *Rhine*, stand in a manner expos'd every hour to the violences and irruptions of the Arms of *France*; and consequently, in case of an Election of a King of the *Romans*, we may probably find by their Suffrages what may be expected from Slaves to that proud and ambitious Crown.

Fourthly, That his Imperial Majesty having by that Peace tacitely consented to the late Cessi-

on made by *Spain* of the Coun-
 try of *Burgundy* to the Crown of
France: It follows, that if His Im-
 perial Majesty, (in Case of failure
 of Issue in the House of *Spain*)
 should in his own Right, or in the
 Right of the Arch-Duchess his
 Daughter, the Heir to the E-
 states of that Monarchy, he hath
 by that Article of the County of
Burgundy, released his Right to
 it, and deprived his Successors,
 and the Empire of the Conveni-
 ence that Country might upon
 a favourable Revolution have
 afforded them to lead an Army
 without opposition into the
 heart of *France*: And should
Lorrain be ever restored to the
 Empire, yet this Article will be
 an infallible means for *France* to
 maintain continually an Army
 on the Frontiers of *Germany*, and
 invade it as often as it shall ap-
 pear to be for the Interest and
 Gran

Grandeur of the *French* to attack the *Germans*.

Fifthly, That though *Switzerland* be thoroughly convinced by the building the Fortrefs of *Hunninges*, of the Ambitious designs of *France*, and consequently concerned and inclined to make a League with all, or part of the Princes of the Empire, in defence of the Common Liberty; yet the unfortunate Seſſion of the County of *Burgundy* hath furnished the Pensioners of *France*, (whom no Counſel or Caution of that Republick is free from) with a plausible argument, to perſwade that Republick not to ſtir in its own defence, till it be perhaps too late, and out of its power to help it ſelf: For, ſay they, What ſhall we do? The *Cantons* of *Bern*, *Fribourgh* and *Sollurſe* cannot ſubſiſt without the Salt

of that Province: Besides the Forces his most Christian Majesty keeps actually on Foot there, may justly admonish to be cautious to the utmost, what measures we take, and consider all things before we ingage in any: By such discourses as these (though groundless, if we suppose an Union of the Forces of the Empire with the *Swisse*, which would infallibly draw in many more) it may fall out that this Republick (if the lowest party prevail not against those Traytors to their Country) may to its own mischief, and the ruin of others, lye still and look on, as unconcerned, and consequently be a Member wholly useless to the Publick, for defence of the Common Liberty, which would be in the present Conjunction of more mischievous Consequence than most are aware of.

Sixth-

Sixthly, That by this peace the Duke of *Lorrain*, who hath had the honour to *Marry* a great Queen, eldest Sister to his Imperial Majesty, hath found as little respect in this Peace, as if he had married the Daughter of a *Burgomaster of Colmar*; and hath been violently robb'd, and intirely dispossess'd of his Dukedoms of *Lorrain* and *Bar*, and several other Lands he held in Sovereignty, being his Hereditary Estates, and descended to him by unquestionable right of Succession: Which others looked on with so little concern, as if this Prince (strip of all he could call his own) had lost no more than a Ring, or a Farm of a thousand Crowns value.

Seventhly, That his Imperial Majesty, and the Empire, by Signing a Peace (to give it its right Name) so unbecoming and

unworthy, have raised the courage and hopes of the most Christian King to that height, that he looks on both with so much indifference and scorn, that he hath openly undertaken at once three things, which (I believe) were never heard of in the Empire, at least when it had the advantage of a Head that had the least jealousy and care for its Glory.

The first, that without any Lawful Mission, the Emperor being young, and in perfect Health, he solicites vigorously the two Electors of the North side of the Empire, for their Suffrage at the next Election of a King of the *Romans*. I mention only these two Electors, for as for the others, he makes no doubt by fair means or by force to dispose of them as he shall think fit.

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The second, that, as if he were dealing only with the Farmers of his Revenues, or the Poysoners of *Paris*, he hath by a Declaration erected at *Metz* (as formerly at *Brisak*) a Court compos'd according to the course of that Kingdom, of a dozen Hangm——where though the smallest Duke and Peer of *France*, is not obliged to appear; His most Christian Majesty, as Judge and Party, cites by some Catchpole of that *Clandestine* Jurisdiction, Princes of the most ancient Illustrious Houses of the Empire (which he hath nothing to do withall) to make their appearance, to give him Account by what right they possess what their Predecessors have for three or four hundred Years peaceably enjoyed. This invention, with the help of the Knight of the Post, and a Map of the Coun-

Country drawn out at pleasure, (but of the old fashion, the better to colour the business) is the ground of his pretensions, that the greatest part of *Lorraine*, the whole Dukedom of *Deuxponts*, and the best part of *Alsatia*, as far as *Lausterbourg*, are ancient Dependencies of the Bishopricks of *Metz*, *Toul* and *Verdun*, and must consequently be re-united to the Demains of that Crown with as much ease, as the Lands of some wretched Treasurers of *France* have been resumed by his Majesty.

The third is, that to the end his new Paper-pretences, may be as effectual as the right of devolution of the low Countries in 1667 and 1668. He hath upon the Frontiers on this side considerable Forces in readiness to Execute the Reunion, or rather, under that pretence, to do what he

he shall think fit in the Empire, when all this while, neither his Imperial Majesty, nor any Prince of the Empire dares openly stir. As if what hath already been done to the Duke of *Lorraine*, and other Princes and Cities of the Empire in *Alsacia*, were not only a certain presage, but an unquestionable President, whereby all other Princes and States of the Empire, of what quality and degree soever, may clearly see the Fortune of those Princes and States, who have the misfortune to hold of that Crown, or be Neighbours to its Dominions: The consequences that naturally follow so untoward, and so unhappy a State of Affairs will oblige us to Conclude; Wee to his Imperial Majesty, if he do not wholly alter his Conduct, and God grant I speak not prophetically and truly, as *Micajah* when

when I say His Imperial Majesty will dearly rue his trusting his Council with the direction and management of Affairs of this Nature: And wo to His Imperial Majesty and the Empire, they ever signed that false and fatal Peace, whereby both will naturally fall (unless God by special interposition prevent it) under the slavery of that absolute and despotical Dominion. Yet I would not be thought to be of Opinion, that if all His Imperial Majesty's Council were such as it ought to be, Affairs would be in that ill condition we find them; but the greater part of that Council being weak or corrupted, as I dare say it is, we are not to doubt, but if it continues, things will still grow worse and worse: I have been bold to say, the greater part of the Imperial Council is Weak or Corrupt:
And

And to make my words good, I will proceed by degrees from smaller matters to those of greatest importance, to prove what I affirm by unquestionable Instances.

The first *Instance*.

Commissary General *Capellier* surpriz'd the Steward of his House in the very act of Traiterous Correspondence with the Minister of *France*, to whom he gave an exact Account of all he could discover at his Master's House. The Letters he sent to the *French* Minister and those he received from him were seized at the Imperial Post Office at *Frankfort*: And though this happened in the heat of the War between the two Nations, and the Traitor upon discovery of the matter was arrested, and carried to *Philipsbrough*, & from

From thence to *Vienna*, yet he
(a Fellow worth nothing) found
at Court such powerful support,
that he was set at Liberty; and
cleared as a gallant Person.

The second Instance.

The Siege of *Phillipsbourg*; be-
ing form'd by the Imperial
Troops and those of the Circles,
and the place so much straitned
that they began to want Powder
in the Town, two Brothers, Bur-
gesses of *Frankfort*, corrupted by
a *French* Minister, undertook to
buy several Waggon Loads of
Powder in the Empire, and to
conveigh them into *Phillipsbourg*
with other Ammunition. But
the Convoy for executing the
Design having been surprized by
the Imperialists, and one of the
Rogues taken and sent to *Vienna*,
he was not long there but he was
set

set at liberty as a very honest
Fellow.

The third Instance,

He that commanded in *Fribourgh*, when taken by Marshal *Crequi*, could not deny himself notoriously guilty of Cowardice, or Treason, being arrested for his Crimes, and carried first to *Inspruck*, and thence to *Vienna*: he was look'd upon as a Sacrifice necessary to be offer'd to expiate so hainous an offence against Equity, Policy, and the Discipline of War; but because he was related to a principal Minister, or rather, because a Great One was afraid he might (if put hard to it) make some discoveries: He was fully acquitted, and cleared from all that was laid to his charge; and in such a manner, that he retired home as confident, and un-

unconcerned, as ever the *French* Governour of *Phillipsbourg* could have done, after the generous defence he made of the Post he commanded.

The Fourth Instance.

The Duke of *Saxe-Eisnach* having had the Command of a little Army on the *Rhine*, being an active and brave Prince, neglected not any thing that might conduce to the worthy discharging the Duty of his place; those of the Imperial Council, who took part with *France*, having designs contrary to those of that Prince, were as active on the other side, by close and sudden wayes to bring two things to pass: The first was to raise and establish a mis-understanding between this Prince, and his Highness of *Lorrain*; Commander
in

in chief of the great Army of the Empire: The Second was, to order the distribution of Ammunition necessary for the Army in such a manner, that when it was provided of one sort, it should certainly want another: When it had Cannon, it wanted Carriages; and when it had both these it should have neither Powder nor Bullet: And to give those of the Council their due, their designs took effect to admiration, for the whole story of that Campaign is (in short) no more but a misunderstanding between these Princes, and want of Ammunition. But this was not enough, for the malice of these Emissaries, they proceeded further to hire one under the name of *Dela Magdelaine*, who having been instructed by the Major *Domo* of the Abbot S. Gall (of whom we shall have occasion to speak hereafter)

was.

was set on to seduce and surprize this Prince: In a word, he came to the Duke of *SaxeEysenach* to propose to him the surprizal of a Fortrefs belonging to *France* in the higher *Alsatia*: The proposal was guiled over with so much probability of success, that the Duke animated with zeal to do something great for the Glory of his Imperial Majesty, and the Interest of his Country, greedily hearkned, and quickly embraced the proposal. After some necessary precautions for the Enterprize, *Duncwald* was commanded to undertake the Execution, and having in the Action discovered the Cheat, the Duke us'd his endeavours to have the Criminal Arrested: But all to no purpose, for the Major *Domo* had already secured him in a place of safety: I make no doubt but every one will

will grant me, this Rogue deserved death, and had not any colour of pretence, to find esteem or safety in the Empire: But it proved quite otherwise upon his Capitulation, (I mean that with the Major *Domo*) for the Rogue, having play'd this excellent trick, had the impudence to go to the Emperours Court, where he was very well received, and highly treated, and sent thence to *Breslaw*, where Count *Shaftkutsch*, President of the Imperial Chamber in *Silesia*, pays him constantly, by order from above, annually a considerable Pension: This arrant Cheat goes now as formerly under the Name of *Cygale*, and gives out he is a-kin to the Grand Signior: But it hath been made appear in *France* and *England*, that he is a Native of *Mal-davia*, and was Groom to a Prince of that Country: This is
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the true Character of him, the rest that is said of him are but inventions of Jesuits and Monks, who go snips with him in the Presents he receives on his Lying pretences. I have been more particular in my account to your Highness of this Fellow, to arm you the better against a surprize, by his Fictions and Artifices, which he continues to practise every day in hope to get something from those he can impose upon.

The Fifth *Instance*.

By what I have said formerly of *Switzerland*, it may appear of what importance it may be to the Emperor and Empire to make that Republick sensible of their true interest, and treat with them for a League and Union of Forces in defence of the Common

mon Liberty ; and (to bring this about) to employ in the Negotiation, Persons not only capable and faithful, but acceptable to those they are to treat with : Yet as if the Emperor's Council made it their business to do in this as other particulars, only what may gain them the favour, or the Gold of His most Christian Majesty. 'Tis fit to know the Person the Emperor's Council employs in all those important Negotiations they have with that Republick. It is no other than the Abbot *S. Gall's* Major *Domo*, above mentioned, called Monsieur *Fidelle*, (Mr. *Faithful*,) but by the same figure of speech our Divines call the Prince of Darkness an Angel of Light : For this Fellow is notoriously known and confest to be the falsest of Men. Yet being a Person of a very ready wit, a lively fancy, and

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naturally active in what he undertakes, sometimes he openly acts on the part of *France*, and publicly solicits Suffrages in this Republick in favour of that Crown; sometimes he turns his Coat, and is on the sudden all for the House of *Austria*: This man from a petty Pedler of *Italy*, is become excessive Rich, which I mention as a circumstance whereby it may be the better known what a Man he is, how fit to negotiate the Interests of his Imperial Majesty, and to be the Confident and Councillor of the Ministers of State; His Council sends into these parts: And to make appear their Wisdom or Collusion in this particular, I must acquaint your Highness with a matter generally known throughout the *Swisse Cantons*.

That

That this man is owner of a Moity of two *Swisse* Companies, now actually in the Service of the *French*, under the command of his Son in Law : (An Ordinary Traffick among the *Swisses*) That his most Christian Majesty hath within these three years bestowed on him a Rich Canonry, in the higher *A'satii*, or *Brisgow*, which one of his Sons is invested in : That 'tis this faithful Minister of the Imperial Court, hath since the beginning of the last War, bought all the Horses his Christian Majesty had need of for his Armies, and caused them to be transported from the Port of *Wasserbourgh* in *Germany* (where his Master hath a Bayliff, and no small Power) to the Port of *Rochas*, in *Switzerland*, which is a place whereof his Master is Sovereign Prince : That this man being the principal incendi-

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ary and Fomenter of all the troubles and broils hapned in *Switzerland*, these last twenty years; is so generally hated by all good people of that Nation, that to procure the miscarriages of any affair of the Dyets of *Baden*, there is no surer means than to make the Assembly suspect this man hath a hand, or is any way concerned in it. This appeared clearly in the affair of the County of *Burgundy*, for Count *Cazatti*, the *Spanish* Embassadour, having very unadvisedly resolved to make use of this mans Counsel and Conduct in a matter of that importance, that *mighty* affair was utterly ruin'd by that very means: Notwithstanding all, this man is the Confident and privy Councillour of all the Ministers his Imperial Majesty sends to that Nation; and their first business, when arrived there, is to visit him, to consult him
and

and communicate to him all their instructions. : This about three years since, occasion'd a pleasant passage at the Dyet of *Baden* : An Envoy of his Imperial Majesty, (whom I purposely forbear to name) according to the Custom of his Predecessors in that Employ, and the Orders establisht, went presently after his arrival to consult this Oracle ; going afterward to *Baden*, the Envoy was strangely surprized to find that *Gravelle* the *French* Embassadour had already Communicated to the Assembly all the private Instructions the Envoy had received from the Council at *Vienna* : Thus that Envoy's Nogotiations came to nothing, and so will all others his Imperial Majesty shall permit to be managed by the false and Corrupt Conduct of a Man so base, and altogether unworthy the honour of that Employment. C 2 The

The Sixth *Instance*.

'Tis an infallible Maxim, that every Prince dispossest of his Estate, may hold for certain, there will be nothing omitted on the part of the Usurper, or a Conquerour in possession to ruin him, if possible, and all his Generation : Therefore 'tis not strange, that the Ministers of *France* (though perhaps in this particular against the intention and without the order of his most Christian Majesty) leave no stone unturned for the destruction of his Highness of *Lorrain* : But it may surprize any man to find that the Imperial Governour of *Phillipsbourg*, should (so openly and notoriously, as he did) have attempted the destruction of that Prince, by the trap he caused cunningly to be made in the bridge of that place, for that purpose,

pose, through which the good Prince fell headlong to the bottom of the Ditch : May we not justly infer, this Governor had capitulated and agreed with some Minister of the Enemy to commit so vile a Treason ? May we not conclude so black an attempt against a Sovereign Prince, Brother in Law to the Emperor, and at that time representing the Person of His Imperial Majesty, under the Character of *Generalissimo* of his Armies, unquestionably merited exemplary punishment ? No honest Man but expected the Criminal should have been made a Sacrifice to Justice and Vengeance, when he was taken and carried under a strong Guard to *Vienna*. But all that was meer shew, for the Favourers of *France* had that influence over the Council at *Vienna*, that this Villain, as the former, past altogether unpunished.

The seventh *Instance*.

It appears publickly his most Christian Majesty since the *Peace* Arms by Sea and Land more powerfully than before ; and *France* being not sufficient for the Levies he makes, he is come by his Ambassadour to the Center of the Empire, to *Frankford* and to *Prague* to compleat them. He causes Fortresses and Places of strength to be every day built on the *Saar*, the *Rhine*, and all the Frontiers of *Germany*, I think there needs no better evidence of his having a Design to reduce *Almayn* into a condition of disability to help it self, when he thinks fit to attacque it ; if we consider farther, that he causes his Commissaries to buy up all the Corn in *Swabe* and *Franconia*, which is daily carried away
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into his Magazines in *Lorrain*, *Alsatia*, and the County of *Burgundy*. Let us examine on the other side the conduct of the Head and Natural Defender of the Empire, or rather of his unhappy Council : This Prince hath since the *Peace* reformed all his Troops, and in particular the Garrison of *Rhinefeld*, which is of principal consequence : Let us weigh the matter without prejudice : He hath disbanded most of his old Regiments, and kept on foot only part of the new. A man must be blind, and void of common sense, who comprehends not that the Imperial Council hath in this particular acted by intelligence with the Council of *France*, and by their direction, to deprive the Emperor of the only Officers and Soldiers capable to defend him, and to make them immediately go over into

the service of *France*: The matter hath fallen out according to their design, and I leave it to any man versed in matters of State or of War, to judge what a Conduct so extraordinary as this doth naturally signifie.

I should be too tedious to give you all the Instances I know whereby to prove the Emperour is certainly betray'd by the greater part of his Council. But to be short, let it be observed, that the same Council that cleared the Steward of Commissary *Capelliers*, the Traytors of *Frankfort* who would have furnished *Philipsbourg* with Powder in the Siege, and the Governour of *Fribourg*: The same Council that hath protected at *Breslaw* the Villain who abused the Duke of *Saxe Eifnach*, and procur'd a Pension to be settled on him, the same Council that hath settled the
Major

Major Domo of the Abbot *S. Gall*, to be the Imperial Minister in *Switzerland*, and prevented the exemplary punishment of the Governour of *Phillipsbourgh*; the same Council that advised His Imperial Majesty to reforme the greatest part of his Troops, and in the manner I have told you; this is the very Council hath clearly acquitted and approved of all the Conduct and publick Robberies and Insolencies of Commissary *Capelliers*, and others: and by causing His Imperial Majesty to sign the late shameful *Peace*, have reduced the too good Prince into such a Condition, that (without a special Providence of God to the contrary) no *Prince* will henceforth without much difficulty and caution relye on his Word or his Signet: So that considering the Activity, the Power and

Interest of his Enemy, with the credit and influence he hath in the Emperor's Council, His Imperial Majesty, as to his Elective Imperial Crown (and I know not what to say of his Hereditary Dominions and Estates) seems reduced to the Condition of a *Chilperic*, or a *Charles* in *France*, for he hath more than one *Pepin*, or one *Hugh Capet* to deal with. Nor do I see he hath any greater Authority than had those two unfortunate Kings, who were violently thrust out of their Thrones; which neither they, nor any of their *Posterity* ever regained. The better to convince the World how foully His Imperial Majesty is betrayed by his Council, and in him all the *Princes* and *States* of the Empire, and that there hath been of a long time a horrid and villainous *Plot* carried on against them with

with great cunning and caution,
 give me leave to observe that
 it proceeds from the secret En-
 gines of this Plot, that His Im-
 perial Majesty's two Sisters were
 Married to Princes, both Robbed
 of their Dominions and Estates:
 As to the Duke of *Lorrain*, Hus-
 band of the Elder, he continues
 to this day stript of all his Estates,
 and if the late Peace hold, I see
 little hopes of his Re-establish-
 ment. And it cannot be deny'd but
 that the Duke of *Newbourgh*,
 though restored by the Peace to
 the Dukedoms of *Fuliers* and
Berg, was out of possession of both
 at the time of the Marriage of his
 Son to the Emperor's younger
 Sister. The Reasons of these Mar-
 riages were, that the Princesses
 being Married (as they are) to Prin-
 ces uncapable to afford His Impe-
 rial Majesty any Succour at need,
 neither His Majesty nor his Allies
 might

might have any benefit by the Marriages. And that when ever *France* should be desirous of Peace, there might be those in the Imperial Councils and Court, whose Interest would oblige them to desire and procure it, in order to their restoration and re-establishment in their Estates, and to free themselves from the necessity of begging their Bread elsewhere. It hath happened accordingly as to the Duke of *Newburgh* at least, for having not wherewith to bear the Charge of the Marriage of his Son with the Emperor's Sister, without being restored to the Dutchies of *Fuliers* and *Berg*, which could not (at least so speedily) be effected without a *Peace*, what wonder is it, that this *Prince* hath for the time past (being forced by his Necessities) joyned with that part of the Emperor's Council that was for *Peace*, and assisted

assisted them in perswading His Imperial Majesty to sign it on any Condition: Nor can it appear strange, if this *Prince* for the future joyn with the same Council, and use all his Credit and Interest with His Imperial Majesty, never to enter into a War with *France*, though he have never so great Reason for it. *For when wants and Necessities enter in at the Door, Honour and Friendship flyeth out at the windows.*

His Highness of *Lorraine* (to give him his due) hath done bravely on this occasion, having generously chosen to run the *Risque* of losing all, rather than sign so shameful and unjust a *Peace*, as that proposed to him by *France*: And I shall be very much deceived, if he or his recover not their Estates rather by this than any other Conduct: For Revolutions are Common to
all,

all, and I have particular Reasons to believe it may one day happen so in the Affairs of his Highness.

This I think is more than sufficient to Evince that His Imperial Majesty hath been basely betrayed by his Council.

My next business is to shew by what sort of People he hath been chiefly betrayed, and with what Covers they have guilded those Pills, which they have made this Good and August Prince swallow from time to time.

To find the bottom of this business, we must look a great way back, as far as the beginning of the War, which *France* by Concert with *England*, the Elector of *Cologne*, the Duke of *Nemburgh*, and the Bishop of *Munster*, made against the *United Provinces* in 1672. After several Alliances with the Deceased Elector of
Bavaria,

Bavaria, and Duke of *Hanover*, and others, which were but too visible during that War.

Several pretences have been made use of to colour that Rupture, but the truth is, it was fomented only by the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits: To give your Highness full and clear satisfaction in this particular, be pleased to permit me to put you in mind, that a little before the breaking out of that War, his Royal Highness of *Savoy* Deceased, having taken his Measures with the Court and Council of *France*, made open War against the Republick of *Genoa*. The Court of *Rome* wisely judging the Duke of *Savoy* would not have engaged in that Enterprize without assurance before hand of Succour and Protection from *France*, if needful; and that those petty Sparks might raise a
General

General Conflagration in *Italy*, which in time might draw over thither all the *French* Forces, and consequently expose that Country to inevitable Ruin; that subtil and cunning Court, to save themselves from the storm, applied themselves seriously,

In the First place, to put an end upon any terms to the War between the Duke and the Republick, which Monsieur *Gaumont* soon after effected.

In the next place, being sensible what formidable Forces His Most Christian Majesty had then on foot, and that that *Monarch* could not forbear breaking out into a new War; the Court of *Rome* resolved to use all their endeavours to divert from themselves, and their Neighbours, the Effects of the *French* Arms, and cause them to fall on some other Country of *Europe*, the
most

most remote that might be from *Italy*, and where it might be most Convenient for the Interest of the *Pope*: The Jesuits having given directions to this purpose, the affair was manag'd with that subtilty, the Storm fell altogether on the *United Provinces*, the Court of *Rome* assuring it self, that, if that Republique were once destroy'd, the whole *Protestant Party* would naturally come to ruin, and the *Papal Authority* in a short time recover it's primitive Grandeur and Glory. Great Obstacles were quickly discovered against the carrying on this mighty *Project*: The most Christian King who clearly saw what the Court of *Rome* aim'd at, was, or pretended to be, unwilling to engage in Open War against the *United Provinces*, but on two Conditions.

First,

First, That the Court of *Rome* should secretly consent and give way that he might, if he could, joyn the *Provinces* of the *Spanish Netherlands* and *Lorrain*, with what he could Conquer from the States of the *United Provinces*, to form or restore the Ancient Kingdom of *Austrasia*.

Secondly, that the Court of *Rome* should assure him, to their *Power*, to procure his *Majesty* and the *Dauphin*, (who was designed the New King of *Austrasia*,) the Imperial Crown.

As to the point of the *Spanish Netherlands*, it must be observ'd, that to bring about the Design, it was absolutely necessary to manage his *Majesty* of *Great Britain*, (whose interests there were very considerable) and there could be no hopes to give him satisfaction without Sacrificing to him something very considerable of
what

what belong'd to the *Spaniard*. It would have been almost impossible for any but the *Jesuits* Interests, so different, to reconcile and overcome so great and Numerous Difficulties. The two Branches of the most August House of *Austria*, had heap'd most considerable Favours, and showed their Bounties, on the Society of Jesuits: But when they are concerned for the Grandeur of the *Pope*, and the Interests of the *Miser* (which (by the way) the Society looks on with the same Ardour a young *Prince* in Love would eye the advantages, the Glory and Interests of a Beautiful and rich Queen, whom he made no doubt but he should one day enjoy) all Thoughts and memory of the favours received from the *August Family*, are wholly laid aside on that occasion; the *Jesuits* fell immediately to

to find out Expedients for two Reasons, full of *Justice* and *Equity*, according to the *Politick Maxims* of that Blessed *Society*.

The first was, that whereas the House of *Austria* in the present Conjunction was notoriously unable to raise the *Roman Bishops* to their former Estate of Grandeur and Glory, and that there was not any but His most Christian Majesty, who by his *Forces* and *Interests* could work this kind of *Miracle*, it was absolutely necessary to remove all Difficulties and Obstacles that might hinder the effecting an enterprise so *Profitable* and *Glorious*.

The Second, That in case the Design should take effect, the Society was assured of having in recompence of their pains, two great Abbies, Heads of their Orders, the one in the Ancient Kingdom of *France*, the other in the
New

New Conquests : Which Abbys were to be added to the vast *Patrimony* of this Society, besides the assurances they had by the protection of *France*, to obtain a Settlement in *Amsterdam*, and elsewhere. Upon these Grounds they procur'd the Treaties to be privately sign'd between *France* and *Rome*, and between *France* and *England*, by vertue whereof the War was quickly begun against the *United Provinces*.

I pass over in silence the satisfaction his *Majesty* of *Great Britain* was to have, as impertinent to my present business: It may be observed, that as under the Reign of *Philip* the second *France* was to have been made (as far as it lay in the *Power* of *Rome*) a Sacrifice to the Interests of the *Papal Miter*, and the *Monarch* of *Spain*, 'tis now become the turn of the most August House of *Austria*,

Austria, (according to this Project) to be Sacrificed to the interests of the Papacy, the Jesuits and his most Christian Majesty. And that as the principal design of the Jesuits, and of *France*, was the absolute destruction of the Protestant Party, it was from hence it proceeded, that a League was form'd and sign'd by most of the Catholick Princes of *Germany*, and incorporated into the Treaties above mention'd, wherein every of the Confederates had, or at least thought to have had his design, and compass'd his ends, as afterwards appear'd: Hence also it proceeded that *France*, having anciently had very strict alliances with the Protestant Princes of *Germany*, conceal'd very carefully the present design from all its ancient Allyes of that Communion. The Court of *Rome*, and the

the Society as carefully conceal'd it from both branches of the House of *Austria*; and all this for reasons, than which nothing is more easily apprehended: For the same reason it was, that in the beginning of this War, nothing was omitted by the Popes Nuncio, the Jesuits, and their Emissaries, to lull asleep the Councils of *Vienna* and *Madrid*; and that afterwards they did with all possible diligence reveal to the Ministers of *France*, all they could discover of the deliberations of the Imperial Council, or the Spanish. For the same reason it was, that his Imperial Majesty by the clear Remonstrances of the Elector of *Brandenbourg* being made sensible of the Trap cunningly laid for him by the *French*, and having commanded an Army to joyn with that Elector on the *Rhine*,

Rhine, those Emissaries of *Rome* laid all their heads together, and for their Master-piece to carry on the Design, effected two things.

The first was the Rebellion of the *Male Contents* in *Hungary*, not yet Suppressed, whereby they endeavour'd, if possible, to give the *Emperour* so strong a diversion, that it might not be in his Power to assist his Allies.

The second, I have from an Anonimous Author of an Essay of the Interest of the *Protestant Princes* and *States*, Printed in the year, 1676. and treating of several things, in this respect very considerable: The Author in my Opinion deserves the more Credit, in that he hath lash'd the Society to some purpose in his Discourse, yet not one of it's Patrons or Partisans hath undertook to refute him: The account
he

he gives of the first Campaign, I will repeat Word for Word from the Original, as very futable to my purpose.

In the Year 1672. when the Arms of *France* were so prosperous, that all *Europe* looked on the States of the *United Provinces* as very near Destruction, His Electoral Highness of *Brandenbourg* wisely foreseeing the Consequences to be expected from the Ambitious Enterprizes of *France*, if not stopped in time, gained himself the Reputation, not only of having been the first Prince of *Christendom* who drew his Sword in Protection of that broken State, but by vigorous Remonstrances to the Court of *Vienna*, was the cause that His Imperial Majesty, awaking out of the *Lethargy* some corrupt Counsellors had cast him into, resolved to Arm vigorously, and

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joyn with his Electoral Highness in Defence of that Republique: His Electoral Highness in pursuance of this Resolution being advanc'd towards the *Rhine*, with a considerable Army, and *Count Montecuculi* being on his way thither in the Head of an Imperial Army, with design to act jointly, and to do something considerable in favour of the Republique. *France*, allarm'd by the March of the two *German Armies*, had detach'd Marshal *Turenne*, with a Body of an Army to observe the motions of the other two: But by the several Marches and Counter-Marches these two Armies had made, especially that of *Brandenbourg*, sometimes making as if they would pass the *Rhine* in several places, sometimes in being ready to fall upon the Allies of *France* beyond the *Rhine*, *Turennes Army*

my was so tyr'd out and haras-
 sed, that about the end of the
 Campaign it was almost quite
 dissipated, and found it self in
 so miserable a Condition, that
 'tis certain all *Turenne* was able
 to do, was to be on the defen-
 sive against one of those Armies,
 and that if both Armies had
 join'd, *Turenne* had been inevita-
 bly lost, as was publickly confest.
 His Electoral Highness of *Brandenburgh* knowing how easie it
 was to destroy *Turenne*, and the
 Consequence of his Defeat, cau-
 sed a vigorous Remonstrance of
 all to be made to the Council of
Vienna ; it was so effectual, that
 positive Orders were sent *Monte-*
cuculi to join his Electoral High-
 ness and Fight *Turenne*, without
 further loss of time ; which
 would have broken all the open
 and hidden Measures of *France*,
 and by one blow freed the *Em-*

pire and *Holland* from Oppression. But other matters were in hand for the Interest of *Rome*. His Majesty of *Great Brittain* had permitted himself to be persuaded to publish about that time, a Declaration (whereof he made Report to his Parliament,) whereby a Tolleration and Indulgence was granted in favour of the *Nonconformists* of his Kingdom. Though it may be thought it was not so much for favouring the particular Conventicles of the *Sectaries* of the *Protestant* Party, as, under the name of *Non-Conformists*, to introduce *Popery* again into that Estate, though contrary to the Designs and Intentions of His Majesty, who granted it only in favour of the tender Consciences of his *Protestant* Subjects: This Step towards *Popery* being the First Fruits the Court of *Rome* had

had promised it self from the Ruin of the States of the *United Provinces*, 'tis no wonder that Court set all hands at work to effect that Ruin. The then principal Obstacle of the Design, was the Resolution of His Electoral Highness against *Turenne*, the Destruction of his Army being capable to Re-establish the States of the *United Provinces*, and that Re-establishment would have destroyed all the Projects of the Jesuits in *England*. Here it was the Jesuits plaid their part to prevent the blow from fallin on *Turenne*, and they acted it too well for the general Good of *Europe*: for *Montecuculi* instead of receiving Express Order to joyn *Brandenbourgh's* Army, and fight *Turenne*, received Orders quite contrary; whereby he was absolutely forbidden to do the one or the other. To drive this Nail

to the head; the venerable Society (whose impudence nothing can parallel) made it their business several ways to infuse into his Electoral Highness a jealousy of the Emperour, as insincere in his intentions: this was effected with the greater facility, for that his *E. H.* of *Brandenbourg*, having received from the Court of *Vienna*, a formal Letter, which gave him an exact account of the true order his Imperial Majesty had sent *Montecuculi* to join him and fight the *French*, and his *E. H.* having summoned *Montecuculi* to execute that Order, *Montecuculi*, who knew he had Orders quite contrary, but knew nothing of the former, of which the Elector had account, could do no less than refuse the one and the other, nor could his Electoral Highness choose upon the refusal, but suspect the sincerity of the
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the Emperor's Intentions. This was not enough for those Masters of mischief, for at the same time those Emissaries omitted nothing that might instill into *Montecuculi*, a suspicion of the sincerity of the Elector's Intentions. These Jealousies being but too deeply established, especially on this last side, 'tis no wonder His Electoral Highness was at last perswaded (as these Emissaries had by a third Hand insinuated to him) that the House of *Austria* treated under-hand a separate Peace with *France*: Which appeared the more probable, by the daily Advice he had of the miserable estate of *Turenne's* Army, growing every hour worse and worse, and the obstinacy of *Montecuculi*, neither to joyn him, nor fight. The Emissaries foreseeing this misunderstanding would vanish in

time, when the truth should appear, made use of that conjuncture to set on the Duke of *New-bourgh* to manage a particular Peace between his Electoral Highness and *France*; which the Electoral, jealous of the Imperialists, and vext at their proceedings, was at last perswaded to accept, and with so much the more reason, that as to *Holland* he pretended they had not satisfied their Engagements to him, and as to the Interests of the Empire he reserved himself intire liberty to arm in its defence, if *France* should attacque it.

The Elector was concerned in Reputation to make the Empe-
rour sensible of his just Resent-
ments of *Montecuculi's* proceed-
ing: *Montecuculi* was strangely
surprized, when at his return to
Vienna his Master called him to
a strict account of his Conduct,
and

and the Reasons why he had neither joined *Brandenbourg's* Army, nor fought *Turenne*, when exprefs Orders had been sent him for both. But if *Monteculi* was surprized at the Question, his Imperial Majesty was no less at the Answer, when his sage General produced for his discharge an Order of his Imperial Majesty, in very good form, exprefsly forbidding him either to joyn with *Brandenbourg* or fight *Turenne*: And 'tis certain, this General found all the justice of his Cause, and the assurance his Master had of his fidelity, little enough to clear him of this unhappy Affair. I know this business is one of those Riddles never to be decypher'd, unless the Author will voluntarily give us the Key. I know 'tis from hence it proceeds, that one of the principal Wretches of this

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Court hath been formerly charged with this Forgery: But to speak the truth, the whole guilt of this Affair lies at the Doors of the Emissaries of *Rome* in this Court, who by secret Contrivances with those of *France*, found the means to intercept the true Original Order, and in the same dispatch to transmit a false one, but very well Counterfeit both the Hand and Seal: And that by People who are not now to learn that Trade. It being certain we should not have seen so many Troubles in *Hungary*, as daily are there, had these Emissaries less credit in the Emperours Court.

His Imperial Majesty, the Elector of *Brandenbourg*, and Count *Montecuculi* know the truth of all that concerns them in this Affair: But I am well assur'd not one of the three knows the secret

cret Engines set at work in the business. What I know thereof comes not from them, but from a place where every particular of this Negotiation was known, and by whom it was animated. Certain it is, if the point of the *Catholicon* in *England* had not been found; the Ministers of *France* could not have so easily compassed this Forgery; but by that every thing became feasible, the Directors of the Society having voluntarily undertaken to master all Difficulties.

By the ingenious Deduction of this Relation, where the Author speaks plainly, as a man well instructed and acquainted with the fineness, and superfineness of the management, and by what I have said before, on the same Subject, and every one may of himself apprehend it appears that it proceeds from a Principle of

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a Papal, or Jesuitical Ambition, the Council of *Vienna*, from the beginning of the War, hath been so well penetrated, directed, or altered, that all the Expeditions of the Imperial Army (except with convenient distinctions, the considerable Important taking of *Bonne*, the long and languishing Siege of *Phillipsbourg*, and the taking it at last, and the death of *Turenne*, which was meerly accidental) I say all the Expeditions, these three Points excepted, have been from the beginnings of the Campaigns to the end of them, but so many Processions and Pilgrimages of Shame and of Misery, of Disorder and confusion, as the Subjects of the Empire know too well, who have been flay'd to the bone, and had their Marrow sucked out by Winter-quarters, without consideration, or mercy, but especially

cially the Protestant States and people, and other Princes, Lords, Magistrates, Countries and Towns, who have felt the smart of that fiery Tryal.

From the same principle it is, that when by the Expulsion of the *Swedes* out of the Patrimony of the Empire, his Electoral Highness of *Brandenbourg*, and his Highness of *Zell* and *Osnabourgh* were in a condition (notwithstanding the particular peace of the *United Provinces* and *Spain*) to transport the chief of their Forces upon the Frontiers of *France*, and by so glorious an Action, to oblige *France* infallibly to make a peace with the Empire in general and particular, according to Justice and Equity, then were the Emissaries of *Rome*, so powerful in the Council at *Vienna*, that they obliged his Imperial Majesty, to the

the prejudice of all his Treaties, to seal privately such a peace with *France*, as we have mentioned before; which hath been manag'd with so much dexterity, that that good (but for that time too credulous) Prince did believe, and perhaps is still of the same mind, that he acted according to the most judicious Maxims of Religion and Prudence: And because it may concern your Highness to be inform'd what Artifices were used by the Jesuits and Ministers of *France*, who went hand in hand, acting by concert in all this Affair, to engage his Imperial Majesty to sign that fatal Peace, there were sent from *France* under other pretences the Dutchess of *Meclenbourgh* to the Court of *Zell*, and the Count of *D' Epause* to that of *Brandenbourgh*, and at the same time the Jesuits labour'd so

so effectually, that his Imperial Majesty was made believe (though certainly without just ground) that the Houses of *Brandenbourg* and *Lunenbourg* had already agreed, or were just upon agreeing, to a separate Peace with *France*; whereby his Imperial Majesty would be left alone a prey to the *French* Ambition. True it is, if those Princes were in that Conjunction (as is very probable) very willing to keep what they had conquer'd from the *Swede*: I think they had done well to have dismiss those Envoys from their Courts; which had they done, it would at least have taken away from the Emperours corrupt Council; all pretence of rendring them suspicious to his Imperial Majesty, and hastening him in pursuance of that suspicion to sign the peace under Consideration.

To

To sum up all, we may from what hath been said, reasonably infer these three particulars.

First, That his Imperial Majesty hath been basely betrayed by the greater part of his Council; for I am not so malicious and unjust to confound the innocent with the guilty, and not to make an exception (out of the general clause) in favour of those of his Council, who are men of Integrity and Honour, who in truth I think are very few, and not much in Credit.

Secondly, That his Imperial Majesty being so villanously betray'd by his Council, the Empire in general and particular, through the indissoluble union of the head and Members cannot but miserably participate the misfortune and sufferings of its Sovereign, as is very well known by a fatal, and too long experience.

Thirdly,

Thirdly, that 'tis easie for his Imperial Majesty, and the Empire, to know whom they have equally cause to complain of, and from what Principle not only this Treason is derived, but all the mischiefs that have afflicted Christendom, for above an Age, but especially the Empire since the beginning of the late War : I say for above an Age, as to the General ; because that which his most Christian Majesty, instigated by the Jesuits, undertakes in our days, is but the same, which, by instigation of their predecessors, *Charles* the first, the Emperour *Ferdinand* the Second, and *Philip* the Second of *Spain*, did in their days. As to the Empire in particular I say, since the beginning of the last War ; because 'tis certain his Imperial Majesty hath been since that time by the means I
have

have mentioned, so closely beset, and so strictly observed, that 'tis not in his power to speak, to advise, to wish, or do any thing, but the Society knows, and absolutely destroys it, if not suitable to their particular Interests and Designs: There is not a person in the Emperor's Court, but knows, that no man without certain ruin dare oppose in that Court that Cabal in any matter though never so little: To conclude this Point, His Imperial Majesty, as a Slave to the Society, as things stand at present, serves only to Authorize his own Ruin, the Ruin of his August Family, and of the Empire in general and particular: For the very Moment I write, *France* publickly solicits in the Empire, (as I said before) the Nomination of a King of the *Romans* in fa-
 YOUR

vour of the Dauphin, which in all probability will be managed with so much dexterity and subtilty, that his Imperial Majesty, if he follow the advice of his Council, Spiritual or Temporal, will think himself obliged in Conscience voluntarily to give way to it.

This, my Lord, is the true state of his Imperial Majesty, and his Council since the last Peace. Three things remain to be considered.

First, The particular Advantages the Court of *Rome*, and the Jesuits procured themselves by the late War.

Secondly, What Advantages they design'd themselves by the late Peace, and its consequences.

Thirdly, What the Empire in general and particular may expect from the present state of Affairs.

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The Advantages the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits procured themselves, by the late War, have not been so great as they promised themselves, for God having preserved the United Provinces, whose utter Destruction they had projected; 'tis certain, most of their Projects in *England*, and elsewhere, were defeated: Yet the Advantages of the Papacy over the Protestant Party, in the late War, are very considerable; and consist in five Particulars.

1. That by the fire of War, kindled by the Artifices of *Rome*, and the Jesuits, between *England* and the United Provinces; those two Protestant Powers have unhappily consumed very considerable Forces in Men, Money, Ships, Ammunition, and loss of Trade, the Soul and Substance of the Riches of both Countries.

2. That

2. That the *United Provinces* have in defence of themselves against *France* and its Allies in *Germany*, been forced to spend their Men and their Money, besides loss of Trade during the War.

3. That *Swede*, *Denmark*, *Brandenbourgh*, and *Zell*, have consumed their Forces during all this War, kindled by the Artifices of the same Party, between *Swede*, and the three Princes of *Denmark*, *Brandenbourgh*, and *Lunenbourgh*, both by Sea and Land.

4. That under pretence of this War, the Protestant States of the Empire, as well during the Campaignes as by Winter-Quarters, have been miserably harrassed and exhausted with Exactions, Burnings, Contributions to that degree, that most of the Protestant Imperial Towns

Towns are almost ruined ; and several of them as well as the *Palatinate*, and other Countries, out of hopes of recovery in an Age ; while the Hereditary Countries, and *Bavaria*, and many other places of the *Roman* Communion in the Empire, have been preserved as the Apple of an Eye, or so little oppress'd they scarce feel it.

5. That *France* by this War, having conquered the County of *Burgundy*, and kept it by the Peace free from Condition of Exchange, it is to be observ'd, that whereas this Province, belonging heretofore to *Spain*, was, by reason of its distance from the heart of that Kingdom, not in a condition to hurt the Protestant Cantons of the *Swisses* ; now that it belongs to *France*, we art not to flatter our selves, but it belongs to a
Power

Power which may every hour make a sudden irruption into the Canton of *Bern*, and under the specious pretence of Religion put the Protestant and Roman Cantons in disorder, and by degrees work their inevitable ruine; unless that Republick have the Courage and Judgment to enter into confederacy with those that ought to preserve it from destruction, which the building the Fortrefs of *Hunningen*, may sufficiently instruct them, is certainly intended them.

I reckon all these to be real advantages the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits have by the last War procur'd themselves against the Protestant Party: For where resolution is taken to ruine an Enemy under several heads, the best way to effect it, is to divide the Powers, and engage them as much as may be in
 War,

War, one against another, to the Consumption of their Forces; and to fortifie your self on their Frontiers, that you may make sudden Inroads into their Countries when you please: The Court of *Rome*, and the Jesuits, by the Access they have had to the Council of *France*, and the House of *Austria*, and by the help of the Counsellors there, and in the Protestant Courts, have with great dexterity put these Maxims in practice during the late War: For His Majesty of *Swedland*, managed by *France*, His Majesty of *Denmark*, His Electoral Highness of *Brandenbourg*, and His Highness of *Zell*, managed by the Imperial Court, will take the pains to search to the bottom, by what Motives and Artifices they have been all four engaged in a War, which hath ruined their Estates
for

for more than ten years. I doubt not (with the respect and submission that is due to them) but they will find that the modern *Romans* have with great insolence and perfidiousness practised upon them what the ancient *Romans* did for divertisement to their Gladiators : for when these men had by bloody, and oftentimes mortal Combats, sufficiently diverted the Spectators, and the Magistrate made them a Sign to give out, they were bound to do it, and in what condition soever they were to go every one home, as these four Princes were in the end forced to do. This may serve for an excellent and important instruction for *England, Holland, Swede and Denmark*, and all the Protestant States and Princes of *Germany*, to avoid effectually the snares the Court of *Rome* every

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day

day lays for them the ways I have observed, with a settled design to destroy not only their Religion but their Temporal Estates.

The Second Point.

The Advantages the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits proposed to themselves by the conclusion of the Peace between his Imperial Majesty and *France*, may be reduced to three principal Heads.

I. By the Maxims observed in the first part of my Letter, to fix (without danger of any probable variation) the Designs of *France*, and the Efforts of their Arms, against the Empire and Northern Countries, as most remote from *Italy*, and most convenient by the progress of those Arms to ruine the Protestant Party,

Party and consequently to advance the re-establishment of the Papal Grandeur and Authority, the fall of the one producing naturally the exaltation of the other. And for attaining this end, to procure this Peace to be so made, that his most Christian Majesty might be fully perswaded the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits (in prejudice to all other Powers of Christendom) studied nothing more than his exaltation, and an effectual settling and establishing in time an absolute Monarchick Authority over *Europe*: And that this project might be made appear so facil and easie to this Prince that he might be the better tempted to undertake it: In order to these ends, the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits could not have done any thing whereby more effectually to demonstrate their zeal and close

adherence to the Grandeur and Exaltation of the most Christian King, than by making (as they have done with so much craft and perfidiousness) a Sacrifice of the Emperour and Empire (with all that concerned the Glory and Interest of both) the better to carry on the Designs of the *French*: Their project in this particular hath proved so effectual, and discover'd so many divisions, so much ignorance, weakness, and baseness, in the Empire, that his most Christian Majesty may by these appearances rationally judge he may probably succeed in whatever he shall attempt against the Empire (though I am not of opinion he will find it so easie a matter as he hath been made believe 'tis.) But we are to believe this Prince is perswaded, that to attain all his ends, the Empire
being

being the natural obstacle against an Universal Monarchy, it must be his business to attempt the Empire in the first place. Nor can it be doubted, but the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits, making full account the most Christian King will be very well able by his Forces to master the Empire, have hastened with all diligence possible the signing the Peace between his Imperial Majesty and *France*, upon design that his most Christian Majesty being by this expedient of the Peace free from War, in case the perpetual Plots of the Court of *Rome*, and the Jesuits in *England*, or elsewhere, should be so prosperous, as, with the help of Forreign aid, to effect the re-establishment of the Popes Authority there, they might make use of the *French* Forces to invade that Kingdom, or other Countries, for the ends I have

mentioned : And, if by Gods Providence the perfidious and damnable Conspiracy of the Jesuits against the King the Religion and State of *England* had not been discovered the last year, I believe *England* had ere this felt the Effects of what I observe. Be pleased to allow me leave on this occasion to say, that unless his Majesty of *Great Brittain* be willing to fall, with all his People, under the slavery of the Pope, the Jesuits, and *France*, he hath great Cause to take heed lest the Warlike Preparations of all sorts made by the *French* in all their Ports, and on the Coasts of the Ocean, be not made upon some such design; for by the Scheme of the Plot *Ireland* is looked upon as a Country which may unquestionably procure *France* the absolute Dominion of the Sea, and
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of Trade, and the Conquests of the *west Indies*, according to their ancient and primitive project.

3. The Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits having that influence over the Imperial Council, that it was in their power to do what they pleased there, there is no doubt but the signing of the Peace was prest on this farther design, that His Imperial Majesty (the Peace concluded) finding himself in a condition to dispose of the greatest part of his Forces, they might easily persuade him to employ them to root out the Protestant Party in *Hungary*, and perfect the pretended Reformation in *Silesia*: And it was well for that People that God provided for their safety by very extraordinary means, I mean the Plague; for had not that broken out, it is

not credible but *Dunewald* the Apostate, now a formal Creature of the Jesuits, had been sent thither with an Army to do something. Happy would it be for His Imperial Majesty, if by just and solid Reflections on the Disasters successively fallen upon his August Family, for having too much espoused the violent and cruel passions of the Court of *Rome* and the Jesuits, and by considering this Scourge of God which hath forced him to quit his Capital City, and in a manner follows him visibly wherever he goes, he would be sensible the Hand of God is not stretched out against him, as heretofore against *David*, for his Sin, but because he hath stretched out his hand to oppress the only Congregations of Christians in his Dominions, whose Worship is not infected with

with Idolatry, and who according to the Precepts of the Gospel adore the Sovereign and Supreme Creator in Spirit and in Truth. But far happier should His Imperial Majesty be, if by such reflections God would give him the Grace, as he did to the Emperor *Charles* the Fifth before he died, to acknowledge and own the Truth he persecutes; and (setting aside Policy) embrace generously the Profession of it. God Almighty would then certainly bless him, and 'tis credible he would not deny him the Power to humble the Proud, and those who by their enormous Ambition put all *Europe* into Combustion. I beg your Highnesses Pardon for this Digression; which the Matter I treat of, and my Zeal for the Faith and Salvation of others naturally led me to.

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The Third Point.

To make some solid Prognostick, in a matter so delicate ; I say, as to what the Empire in general and particular is to expect from the present state of affairs ; we are to believe his most Christian Majesty (unless notably changed in his dispositions) would boldly and courageously carry on his business, I mean his pretension to make his Son, the *Dauphin*, King of the *Romans* : His Marriage with the Princess of *Bavaria*, the Envoys and magnificent Presents he sends to the Electoral Courts of *Saxony* and *Brandenbourg*, and his arming so furiously, signify sufficiently two things. First, His Contempt of the Alliances and Oppositions His Imperial Majesty may make against him. Secondly,

Secondly, That he will certainly pursue his pretension. 'Tis of extream importance for the Empire in general and particular to know, whether it be for the interest of the Empire to favour this pretension, or to oppose it. This with your Highnesses leave, I intend briefly to examine; and to observe some order: It is to be considered,

1. Whether it be better for the Empire in general, and every Member of it in particular, to live according to the ancient Customs, Rights and Priviledges, under which they have lived for many Ages, or that the Empire, without striking a blow, submit voluntarily to the Yoke of a Government which acknowledges no Law, but that of a Power purely Despotical and Absolute?

2. As a Dependent on the former Point, Whether it be bet-

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ter, as to the Revolutions since the Wars for Religion, that the Empire live according to the Concordats and Agreements in the Peace of *Munster*, or *Osnabrug*, and the last Capitulations with His Imperial Majesty since his Election: or without regard to the one, or the other, that the Empire engage anew in a Civil War, which by a final Victory may decide the Quarrel in favour of one of the parties, concerning the Concordats, and those two Treaties of Peace, or the late Capitulations, as if never agreed or capitulated?

I think it the more necessary to examine before hand these Points, for that we may hold it for certain.

As to the first Point.

In case the *Dauphin* be ever Elected

lected King of the *Romans*, that from the days of that Election, whatever Capitulations shall be signed to the contrary, the *German* Empire will be annexed to, and made an Hereditary Province of the Crown of *France*. To justify this, you need only read several *French* Authors, who have treated of the Rights and pretensions of *France*, upon the Empire, particularly that of the Advocate *Ambrey*; for though he hath with good reason been laughed at for his Writings, yet if that Election take effect, we shall find his discourse solid and well grounded. Besides, you may soberly weigh what *France* hath already practised upon that part of the Empire which hath fallen to its share, and the Neighbouring Parts, both in Temporals and Spirituall: as to the Temporal Concerns, *France* seizes all boldly,

ly and openly in the Face of the Sun, without pretence of other Law, or Right, but that of convenience, with as much freedom and confidence, as it would take possession of any ancient Patrimony of that Crown: The Dukes of *Lorraine* and *Deuxponts*, *Metz* *beleuard*, and the Ten free Towns of *Alsacia*, sufficiently prove this; as to Spiritual matters you need only read the publick Ordinance of the Bishop of *Metz* against the *Lutherans* of those Countries.

For the Clergy in general, all the free Chapters of the Empire, whether Arch-Bishops, Bishops, Abbots, Deans, or Priors, may assure themselves, if this Election take place, they must go to *France* e're they come to those Dignities; for to imagine the free Suffrages of the Chapters shall be continued, is sottishness and

and folly. The Bishopricks of Metz, Toul and Verdun, and (I doubt not for the future) Cambray, which were heretofore Principalities of the Empire, may teach us that under a French Government the only way to those Dignities is by a Writ of Presentation by the Kings, and consequently all that seek or depend on those Bishopricks must be Courtiers and Slaves. Not but that I believe if the Dauphin be chosen King of the Romans, his Council is too cunning not to make him promise expressly to maintain the Privileges and Ecclesiastical Benefices of the Empire : And that till he be fully settled they may be content to write Letters to the Chapters to chuse the person the Court shall recommend, but in such a manner there will be no fear of refusal : Yet this course is not to
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be expected to hold ten Years to an end: Which I believe the rather for that *France* pretends (as hath been declared at large by several politick Treatises) that most of the great Benefices in *Germany* have been founded by Emperors, Kings of *France*, and that consequently the Court of *France* is the true Patron of them.

The Princes of the *Empire*, Ecclesiastical and temporal, of what Rank or Degree soever, may from the day of that Election, provide for three things which will certainly follow.

First they shall be reduced to the natural Rents and Revenues of their ancient Patrimonies, which cannot with Probability be denied to depend upon the ancient Kingdom of *Austrasia*, (which the Ministers of *France* suppose to be part of the *French* Mo-

Monarchy) and consequently all natural Rights there being subject to the Law *salique*, admit neither of Alienation nor Prescription. For as to the Taxes and Contributions now paid these Lords by their Vassals and Subjects, there is no doubt but they will be obliged to disclaim them, and consent with a very good Will, that the Head of the Empire shall in this Case Order what Taxes and Exactions he please to be Levied, and all for his use: To pretend Capitulations or Reasons to the contrary, will be to insist on Trifles, or commence Suits to be decided only by Military Execution.

Secondly, They will be Disarmed, it being against the Honour of the policy of *France*, to permit any Prince, or Lord, under their Dominion, to have the Power to defend himself by force,
be

be his Right to do so never so ancient and authentick.

Thirdly, To gain the favour of the Head of the *Empire*, the Head of every House of the Secular Princes must actually wait on His Imperial Majesty at an excessive Expence, or send in his stead his Brothers or Sons to make his Court, or to receive Orders and Caresses, and sometimes Repulses and Checks: And the Empire being full of Divisions and Jealousies, there is cause enough to fear the Princes will strive who shall be most Officious, as the Princes and other Great men of *France* have done, to their utter Ruin, and total Consumption of their Estates.

As for the Counts, and Barons, and all Gentlemen of the *Empire*, who are Vassals to Electors and particular Princes, my Heart bleeds to think how certainly
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and strangely their Condition will be chang'd, if ever a *French* King be made Emperour. Is it probable the Ministers of *France* will have more pity of the *German* Nobility and Gentry, than the Dukes, Marquesses, Counts, Barons and particular Nobility of their own Country have found at their hands? There is no doubt but the day they change their Master, they must bid an Eternal Adieu to all their Rights of Sovereign Justice and Free-hold: The Great Men and private Gentry of *France*, several of whom have the Honour to be descended in a right Line from Sovereign Princes, had no less Courage, nor were heretofore less Priviledged, nor less Jealous of their Rights, than many of the Body of the *Empire* are at this present. Yet have they been forc'd one after another to submit to the Yoke,
and

and lose all their ancient Privileges: Nor must they think any more (though they have right) to lay any imposition on their Subjects. For (as I said before in the Article of the Princes;) This is a sweet bit, which the absolute and Despotical Dominion of *France* always reserves for it's own Tooth. They must never think more by Offices and Employments under particular Princes, or the Head of the *Empire*, to render themselves considerable, make their Fortunes, or Recover their spent Estates, as they could have done heretofore: At least but few of them shall be ever able to do it. For as to particular Princes, they will in case of a *French* Emperour be absolutely ruin'd, and forc'd to Retrench themselves and their Families to a very low Condition; and as to the Head of the *Empire*,
 whoever

whoever will have Office or Employment in his House or Courts of Justice, must think of buying it with ready Money, there being not an Office or Employment in the *French Kings* House, from the Steward of his House to the Scullion in his Kitchen, nor in his Courts of Justice, from that of Chief President to the meanest Serjeant, but is sold for ready Money. So that there remains not for the Nobility and Gentry of the *Empire*, any Office or Employ, but what must be bought, save only the Military: But the Nobility and Gentry of the *Empire* are too Judicious, (at least, unless (as the *French* Proverb is) *They are willing to be taken for Fools*,) not to know they have no reason to promise themselves in this particular of Military Employment, any greater Privilege than is allow'd the ancient
Nobility

Nobility of *France*, and consequently, that to procure the favour of the Prince or his Principal Ministers, they must serve in the Wars at their own Charge, as the *French* Nobility have done. The necessary Expences of every Office exceeding yearly, by three fourths, the pay of the Prince: That is, they must relolve to consume the Bulk of their Estates to be known at Court, and frequently spend a real Patrimony in pursuit of vain and chimerical hopes, which will infallibly Ruin their Families, and bring most of those who take these Courses to end their lives in Languishing Grievs and cruel Repentings: For thus it is, all the Nobility of *France* serve in the Wars, and such is the end most of them make. If we have heard of a *Schomburg* or a *Ransau* that became considerable in *France*, by the
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the Wars. Let the Nobility of the *Empire* be assur'd it was but a *Lure* which the Ministers of *France* (who have long since Plotted the Conquest of the *Empire*) thought fit to hold out to Delude and Cheat the *German* Nobility: They are like the Fires in the Night that lead them into *Precipices*, who are indiscreet enough to follow them: All this I know to be true, grounded on very Authentick Memoirs, and certain knowledge of the matters I mention.

As for the Imperial Towns and free Cities of the *Empire*, *Colmar*, *Schlestat*, and *Haguenau*, and the rest of that Rank, situate in *Alsatia*, may teach their Magistrates and Councils, what value the Ministers of *France* put upon their ancient Rights and Priviledges, for those are the things the Ministers there, or
their

their Envoys under the name of Commissaries or Intendants, call in Derision Stories to make one Sleep, Illusions, and Old Wives Tales, that is, things nothing worth. If ever *France* come to the *Empire*, all the Cities of that Order are with *Metz*, *Toul*, and *Verdun*, and (last of all) *Bexin-son* to denounce and disclaim all Rights of Justice, Magazines, Garrisons and Impositions, and to prepare themselves (at least all those that cannot, will be kept under otherwise) to see built in the highest place in the Town a strong Citadel at their Charge, and a Garrison put into it, which they must maintain, and consequently by degrees undergo, as well as all the Subjects of Princes, Earls, Barons, and particular Lords; and all Counts, Barons, and private Lords for their Estates in Land and all Necessaries for Life,

Life, with very little Exception,
all the Impositions following.

*First upon Estates in Land, Mo-
ney, and Trade.*

*Ayde, O'troy, Preciput, Equi-
valent, Crue, Taille, Estaste, Sub-
sistence de quartier d'hyver, Ga-
rinzons, Mortpayes, Appointments
des Gouverneurs, Debtes & Affaires
du Roy, Gratifications Extraordi-
naries, Den Gratuit, Frais de Re-
coua usemens & Contabilite.*

More upon Drinks.

*Aydes sur le vin, Bieres, & Ci-
dres, Plus le huitieme denier, Le
Souquet, Le Patae, Imposts & Bil-
lets.*

[Instead of Censuring the
Translation imperfect, in
giving the Names of these
F Impos-

Impositions (as in the Original) in *French*, let the Reader Congratulate his Happiness, that very few of these *Most Christian* Impositions have been Christened in *England*, and therefore they want Names in our Language.]

More upon things Eatable.

The *Gabelle* on *Corn* and *Meal*, which is taken in Markets or at the Mill, in several places, under the Name of *Mesure Coupee*, or *Octroy*.

The Toll called *Pied Forchu*, taken for all sorts of Beasts sold in Fairs and Markets.

The Toll taken by Weight for every Pound of Meat sold in the Shambles.

The *Gabelle* on *Salt*, which will raise the price of *Salt* so high

high, that what is now sold for a Florin, will then cost Fourteen Crowns.

More upon all Necessaries for Life.

The Mark of Paper, The Mark of Silver, The Mark of Tin, The Mark of Hats, The Mark on all Silk Stockins and woollen, The Mark of Shoes, The Gabelle on Perukes, The Gabelle on Tobacco, The Mark on all Stuffs of wooll or Silk, The Mark on Linnen, The Gabelle on Ice, The Control of Exploits.

More upon Noble Estates, from five Years, to five Years.

The Tax of free Fifes, The Tax of new Purchases, The Fifths and Refifths, Amortissements.

More upon the Offices of Judicature and the Treasury.

The price of Valuation, The Mark of Gold, The two Sols in the Pound, The Seal duty, The Duty of Control, The Registers Duty, The Duty for Oaths, The Prest for being admitted to the Annual, The Annual or Paulette.

Besides many other Taxes to be paid from time to time, and many Retrenchments of Wages to be yearly undergone ; for the Sovereign Courts have but three quarters Wages, the Subordinate but two, and the base or lowest Courts frequently but one.

Add to all these the *Reunion* to the King's *Demesnes*, newly Executed throughout *France* on all Commonalties or Corporations of the *Empire*, that is, all that

that belongs in Common to any Commonalty, as Fewel and Pasture in Woods and Forests, Rivers, Ponds, and all other Common Rights of what nature soever.

More on all sorts of Merchandises Imported or Exported.

The Custom, The Custom for the Value, The Foreign.

Besides the Custom of *Lions*, *Burdeaux* and *Roan*, which take their Names from the Places, and are levied with all Rigour imaginable, not only upon Importation into the Realm, or Exportation out of it into Foreign Countries, but in most of the Frontiers of the Provinces, upon passing out of one into another, within the Kingdom. And we may expect the like Exactions to

be established in the several Provinces of the Empire, on several pretences.

All these Subsidies, and many others, (which, to avoid Prolixity, I pass over in silence) are one way or other punctually paid, where-ever any Subjects of the *French* Monarchy live, with no other distinction, but that the Lords and Gentlemen have Right to hold free from Imposition so many Acres of Land, for their Maintenance, as may be Husbanded with two Yoke of Oxen, (provided the Owner hold that Estate in Demean) for as to what is let out to Farmers, as they pay the King Taxes for the profit of the Farms, they pay so much the less Rent to the Landlord; so that in effect the Nobleman in *France* pays Taxes as well as the Boor: Which the Princes, the Nobles, the Magistrates, and Subjects

Subjects of the Empire, of what Degree soever, have reason seriously to consider. For, 'tis folly to fancy they can make their Capitulations so advantageous as to exempt them from paying these intollerable Subsidies. The Provinces of *Guienne, Languedoc, Provence, Dauphine, Bourgundy,* and *Britain*, and most of the other Provinces of *France*, had heretofore their particular Princes, as most of the Provinces of the Empire now have; and the principal Cities and Towns in these Provinces of *France*, had then as great Priviledges and Immunities as any Free Towns of the Empire: But the Kings of *France* having invaded all these Principalities, and seized the Liberties of the Cities, have, since the taking of *Rochel*, reduced them into so absolute Slavery, that the Citizens and Inhabi-

tants have quite lost the Resolution and Generosity to endeavour a Recovery of their Liberties, and are so bridled with strong Garrisons and Citadels (and we may expect the like in all Countries of the Empire, if ever under a *French* Government) that they are not in a condition to stir, at least to any considerable purpose.

This may suffice for the first point : I pass to the Second.

The second Point.

This deserves the more exact consideration, for that if ever the *Dauphin* be chosen King of the *Romans*, since the Court of *Rome* and the *Jesuits*, by the important Services these have done the Crown of *France* of late, and promise to do for the future, and the Cardinalships they flatter the Nephews and Relations of
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the principal Ministers of *France* with the hopes of, do what they please in the Council of *France*; and what is published to the contrary, on the account of *Regalities*, now in controverſie, is but Cheat and Illuſion; the cruel perſecution raiſed and carried on ſome years laſt paſt againſt the Proteſtants of that Kingdom, the diſgrace of *Pompone*, being not of their Cabal, and of *Theatin* the Princeſs of *Brvaria's* Confefſor, intimating ſufficiently the extraordinary Credit that Society hath in the Court of *France*: I ſay, if ever the *Dauphin* be elected King of the *Romans*, the Empire is to expect two things. Firſt, To ſee him at the Head of the beſt Forces of *France*, (upon the ſpecious pretence of Religion, and reſtoring the Eſtates belonging to the Church) undertaking in the Em-

pire against the Protestant Party what *Charles* the Fifth, and *Ferdinand* the Second attempted to execute. Secondly, That this affair will be so obstinately fomented & protected by the Court of *Rome*, that the Empire will be in danger to be involved in a War more cruel, more bloody, and dangerous, than any the former Wars raised for that Cause. And there is reason enough to believe, that the late War, as well as the Peace since made, were hatched and carried on by the Court of *Rome*, in hopes of being able, by the Power of the *French* Forces, to work the entire Ruin of the Protestant Party of *Europe*, which we see every day decay by degrees: And I am much mistaken if the Money sent by the Pope into *Poland* was not design'd for a Project of this nature. Prince *William* of *Fursten-*

Furstenberg might, if he pleased, furnish us with clear Evidence of authentick *Memoirs* to this purpose ; but we are not to expect it from him, lest by such a Discovery he lose the Recompence the Court of *Rome* designs him for the Pains he hath taken, and continues, to bring to effect this Popish Project in the Empire, and consequently in all *Europe*.

By what hath been said, your Highness may see the Fortune of the Empire, if ever it fall (by any means whatever) under the intolerable Yoke of the Despotical Government of *France* : And I think I need say no more to convince every Member of the Empire, and all the States of it in general, (without any great depth of Policy, or knowledge of War) what their Duty to Religion, their Glory and Interest oblige.

oblige them to do, for preserving themselves from falling under a Yoke of that nature.

But to preserve themselves effectually from this Yoke, I conceive it extremely considerable to enquire first, Whence all this Mischief proceeds? Which known, will give us light what must further be done: And particularly, from what Part the first Attack may be expected, and what Defence is to be made.

The Mischiefs I have mentioned unquestionably have their rise from the Designs and Fomentations of the Court of *Rome* and the *Jesuits*, who (at present at least) direct and dispose of the *French* Projects and Forces, and without any Mercy or Respect, pretend, with the Assistance of those Forces, and their own secret Managements of Affairs, to sacrifice all to the Re-establishment

ment of the Papal Grandeur.

I conceive in Right and Justice two things are to be done ; but I doubt much whether the one will be. The first is, That since the Publick Good and Safety of the Empire consists in living (without Innovation) according to the Ancient Rights, Immunities, and Priviledges, and the Concordats established by Law, (which every Member of the Empire is obliged to observe) and that the Pretensions of the Court of *Rome* and the *Jesuits*, are as inconsistent as those of *France*, with the Publick Good and safety of the Empire : Every Member of the Empire, without flattering themselves any longer with hopes of Favour from *Rome* or from *France*, and without distinction of Religion, applying themselves seriously to procure and promote the Preservation

vation and Publick Good of the Empire, should without delay take such Measures, that neither the Court of *Rome*, the *Jesuits*, nor *France*, may attain their Ends. And in order to this, That every Member of the Empire should put it self into a Posture and Condition, by uniting their Forces, to oppose Force to Force: And if the Princes of the *Roman* Communion will *Bona fide* engage in this Union, it will be necessary, first, That his Imperial Majesty find means to gain the Amity and Assistance of the three Northern Princes whom I have formerly mentioned, engag'd in War by his means, and afterwards cruelly abandon'd to the Mercy of *France* and of *Swede*: Which (by the small Intelligence I have of Affairs) will be difficult enough to effect, especially with the Ele-
ctor

Etor of *Brandenbourg*, without giving him satisfaction in two Points, on which he doth with much equity insist. Secondly, That his Imperial Majesty gain over to the Interests of the Empire the Forces of the Crown of *Sweden*; which will be no easie Task. Thirdly, That the Emperour, and all the Princes of the *Roman* Communion in the Empire, banish and root out of their Councils not only all *Jesuits* and *Monks*, (who by themselves or their Superiors have all Resort to their General at *Rome*) but every one that any way depends on, or hath Society with these Hypocrites, or rather Free Spies of the Empire; a *Capuchin* in this particular being as bad as a *Jesuit*. Though this be absolutely necessary, as matters now stand, yet (to speak freely) I very much doubt whether the Princes
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of the *Roman* Communion will have the Generosity and Courage to do it.

The Second, and that I take to be the only solid means, is, That the *Protestant* Party being now clearly convinc'd that they are the sole Persons aim'd at, and that all that hath been done since the beginning of the last War was really in order onely to work their Destruction; all Kings, Princes, and Magistrates of that persuation are every one in his Sphere to apply themselves with all industry and vigour, first, To Arm with all their Power, that they may be able to oppose Force to Force: Secondly, To enter into mutual Leagues and Alliances, that by joynt Strength they may resist Forces so considerable as those of *France*, and others the Court of *Rome* and the *Jesuits* may by
their

their Artifices bring over to that party. To begin so great and necessary a Work, we will for a while leave the Territories of the Empire; and looking abroad, I am of opinion that *England* and the *United Provinces* ought without further delay to use all means possible to enter into a League Offensive and Defensive, which may (if possible) be indissoluble; That *Denmark* and *Sweden* are to follow that Example; and, That all the *Protestant Princes* and States of the Empire, with the *Protestant Cantons* of the *Swiss*es and the *Grisons*, ought to do the like: For, 'tis not a Concern of particular Quarrels and Jealousies, but the Faith, the Religion and Temporal Estates of all the *Protestant* Party are now at stake. This I conceive will be more easily effected in this Conjunction, for that by a
 special

special Providence of God there
 is no War at present between
England and *Holland*, nor be-
 tween *Swede* and *Denmark*, nor
 between the Princes of the *Pro-*
testant Communion in *Germany*.
 If these three things be effected,
 and the particular Leagues incor-
 porated into a General, and con-
 sequently, an intire Union of the
Protestants of Europe, we need
 not fear the Designs or Attempts
 of the Court of *Rome*, or the *Je-*
suits, or the Council and Forces
 of the *French*: for (these things
 effected) we shall have power e-
 nough not only to deliver the
 Empire from all just apprehensi-
 ons of the Designs of the Court
 of *Rome*, the *Jesuits*, and of *France*,
 against its Liberties, but to reduce
 his *Most Christian Majesty* (by way
 of justice & right) to keep himself
 modestly within the Frontiers of
 his Kingdom, and (in case of Re-
 fusall).

ful) to do something more; which would infallibly produce a sure and general Peace.

I am the more induced to be of this Opinion, while *England* and *Holland* on the one hand, and *Swede* and *Denmark* on the other, are labouring to put an end to all former Quarrels; and the *Protestant* Princes and Magistrates of the Empire endeavour (as I suppose) a League with the *Protestant* Cantons and the *Grisons*, that (to say the truth) I see no other solid and effectual Means to defend the Empire from the Oppression of *France*, and the *Protestant* Party in particular from the Oppression of the Court of *Rome*, the *Jesuits*, and *France*, all at once: For, (to rid our Hands of all false Maxims at once) What else can the Empire and *Protestant* Party reasonably ground their Safety upon?

on? Will they ground it on His Imperial Majesty, as they ought, and without doubt might have done, had his Council been guided with right and sound Maxims? I cannot think, after all that his Council have caused him to do publickly, and what he still continues to put in Execution against the *Protestant* party, that any rational person of that party can expect the least Favour on that side, at least as long as the *Jesuits* and Court of *Rome* have that Credit, that Countenance and Support they have now in his Court. And that we have little reason to hope this Prince will rid himself of them, who have dangerously corrupted his Understanding and Reason, by their Education of him, and the prejudices instilled into him. And should the *Protestants* on this occasion expect help
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from the Court of *Bavaria*, as their Interest in the Empire obliges them, we may very well imagin the expectation will be vain, if we consider the late strict Alliance of that Court with *France*, or the ridiculous Monastick Bigotry reigning in that Court. If then you will rely on the Ecclesiastical Princes, who knows not their Disability, and that the greater part of them will do nothing but what the *Jesuits* shall insinuate into them?

So that for the future (as well as the time past, at least, for the last Age, and more) the Natural Defence of the Empire hath (under God) no solid Ground, but the Forces and Industry of the *Protestant* Party. It was that Party saved it from the intended Oppression of the House of *Austria* in former times : And in
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the late War, when *France* attempted to Master it by its Arms and Intrigues, it was the same Party not only preserved the Empire, but the Emperor, from the Yoke of the *French*. And it will be the same Party which (by the Grace of God) shall easily preserve it for the future; at least, if the Potentates of that Party, or the greater part of them, apply themselves to do what I conceive they are obliged to.

But to speak plainly, and make appear the necessity of such a *Protestant* League and Confederacy, we are to consider, His Imperial Majesty will either effectually perform what he ought in defence of the Empire, by saving himself from falling under the Dominion of *France*; or that he will do nothing but in shew and appearance.

If His Imperial Majesty perform as he ought, against the Enterprises of *France*, such a League can never be more seasonably made to second the Imperial Forces ; nor can His Imperial Majesty in that case rely on any Forces (the Nature of the Quarrel considered) that will be more true to him than those of the *Protestants*.

But if His Imperial Majesty intend meerly to look on, as unconcerned, and not to engage really and effectually against the *French* Designs, which he is so highly concerned to oppose, there can be no doubt, but the Court of *Rome* and the *Jesuits* have secretly carried on a close Intelligence and private League between their Imperial and Most Christian Majesties, for the Ruin and Destruction of the *Protestant* Party ; and, That by some private

private and myſterious Stipulation, ſome *Proteſtant* Eſtate in the Empire, or on the Frontiers, in the *Low Countries*, or *Swiſſeyland*, is, according to their Project, deſigned a Recompence to the Duke of *Lorrain*, for the Dukedoms of *Lorrain* and *Barre*, which *France* hath taken from him, and hath no mind to reſtore. And by a captious Contrivance of this nature, the *Proteſtant* Party in the Empire ſhall find it ſelf at once aſſaulted by the united Forces of their Imperial and Moſt Chriſtian Majesties (who are both of a Communion.) I leave to your Highneſs to judge, how much it concerns the *Proteſtant* party, by the Industry and Union I have mentioned, to prevent ſo great and dangerous an Inconvenience.

My Suspicion of His Imperial Majesty is the greater, for that
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it is notorious there are in the Society of *Jesuits* Men of several sorts; some of whom are dispensed with not onely to lay aside the Habit of their Order, but to Marry, and bear all sorts of Offices and Dignities: And that if his Imperial Majesty was in his younger days, out of too great a zeal for his Religion, unhappily engag'd in this Order, under the Dispensations I suppose, there is no cause left for wonder at his Proceedings against the *Protestants*: For, though he had been but of the *Lower Order*, which is that wherein Marriage is permitted, and a Capacity allowed of bearing Offices and Dignities; yet as to all other things, and particularly in matters of Religion, he must have been under the Obedience of the General of the *Jesuits*, and consequently obliged to make Peace and War,

as the General of the Society should judge most convenient for the Interest of the Pope and the Society. The continual War this Prince makes against the *Protestants of Upper Hungary*, contrary to all the Maxims and Rules of sound Policy, and contrary to the Priviledges (one of his Ministers told me, and I am otherwise well assured) he hath sworn to that Nation; the vast Gifts he hath bestowed on the Society in *Bobemia, Silesia, Hungary, Moravia*, and generally in all his Hereditary Countries; with his shameful signing the late Peace, in prejudice, and contrary to all his Treaties with the *Protestant* Princes, smells rankly of an Obedience which acknowledges no Obligation, nor owns any Rule of Justice or Piety, other than the absolute Command of his Superior. And I see no
 thing

thing in this Prince, as to his manner of Living, and constant Attendance at *Jesuitical* Comedies, Musick, and Pilgrimages, sometimes to one Relique, sometimes to another, with all that may make out his natural or acquir'd inclinations, that may any way convince this Opinion of mistake.

So that if it be so, (as to speak the truth) I very much suspect it is; and I am not alone in this Suspicion: I leave it to the Judgment of the Empire in general, and the Protestants in particular, what ground they have to rely on, or expect any Succour or Assistance from the Head of the Empire: For, in case this prove true, should his Imperial Majesty promise and design effectually to assist the Protestants, in defence of the Common Liberty; yet if on the morrow the Gene-

ral of the Society should order him, for some greater Good, (which, according to their Maxims consists frequently in a Massacre, a Poysoning, or Assassination) to joyn at a precise Day and place his Arms to those of *France*, for the entire extirpation of the Protestant Party in the Empire, there is no doubt but this Prince would be obliged to do it, either on the account of Obedience due to his General, or for fear the Society, in case of his disobedience, should dispatch him, as they did by themselves, or their Emissaries, *Henry* the Third and Fourth in *France*, *Don Carlos* in *Spain*, Duke *Bernard* of *Weymar* in *Germany*, and lately the Illustrious Princess of *Inspruck*, second Wife of that Prince, the last Duke of *Brieg* in *Silesia* : or as they have newly attempted to do against his Majesty of
Great

Great Britain. For Incendiaries, Assassins, and Murderers are the faithful Servants and inseparable Instruments of that blessed Society. Your Highness will not be surpriz'd at the vehement Suspicion I have exprest of his Imperial Majesty, when you have considered, there have been two Kings of *Poland* of that Order, and that *Philip* the Second of *Spain* did (out of Policy) cause himself to be enrolled amongst them. But the Order of the *Jesuits* is compos'd (as others) of two sorts of People, whom Politicians distinguish by the Names of *Directors* and *Directed*: And we are to observe, the two Kings of *Poland* were in this latter Class. The former, by promoting too zealously the Passions of the Society, having lost the Kingdom of *Swede*, to which he was Heir; and the second having by the same

same means incurred the irreconcilable hatred and aversion of the Nobility of *Poland*, to so extream a degree, that to avoid the threatning effects of it, he was forced at last to quit his Crown, from a Sovereign to become a Subject, and go end his days in a strange Country, with no better a Character than that of *Abbot of St. German* in *France*. But as for *Philip* the Second (setting matter of Conscience aside) considering him only in quality of a *Politician*. I boldly assign him a Place in the *Clas* of *Directors*; for he directed his Affairs so well, he mist but little of subduing *France*, and effectually seised the Crown of *Portugal*, and the *East-Indies* as an Appurtenant. I am oblig'd, by the Respect I bear his Imperial Majesty, to leave it to your Highness to think which of the two

Classes,

Classes he is to be rank'd in.

But whether his Imperial Majesty be a Member of this Society, or not, I have said enough to make appear to your Highness the absolute necessity of a League and Confederacy between the Protestant Powers of *Europe*, to enable them to defend themselves against the pernicious Designs of their Enemies. I will conclude with minding your Highness, That this is the Occasion that calls upon you, to shew to all the World your zeal for your Religion, and the Good of the Publick; And that since my longer stay in this Court will be useless, your Highness will do me the Favour to permit me to leave it as soon as may be, that I may have the honour to wait on your Most Serene Person, and continue the performance of my most humble Services.

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Services. To that happy time I respite acquainting you with many Particulars I dare not trust to Paper, (though altogether confirming what I have most confidently affirmed, as to the most Essential Points of my Letter.) And in hopes to receive speedily the honour of your Commands to that purpose, which I humbly beg, I remain with all due Respects,

My Lord,

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Your Serene Highnesses

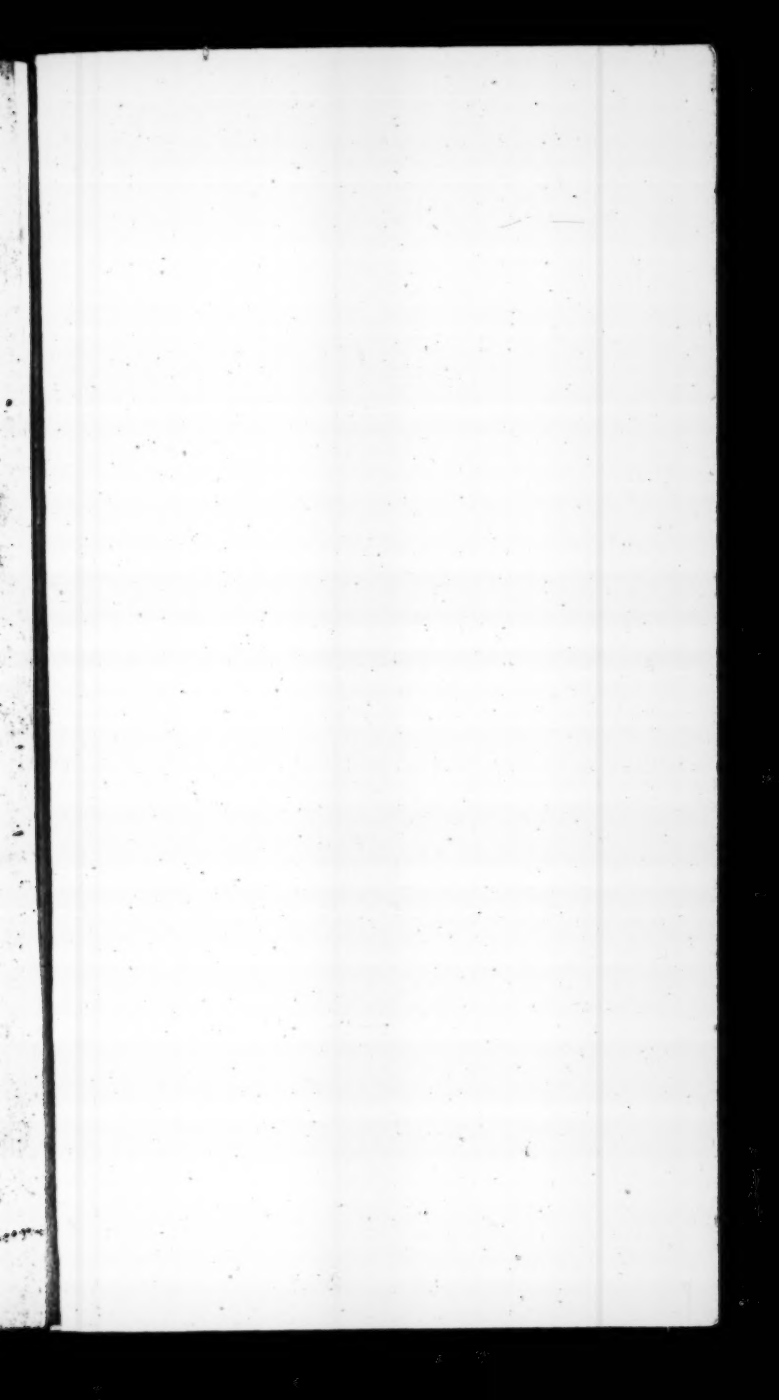
most humble Servant, &c.

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